

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Following is a listing of all claims in the present application, which listing supersedes all previously presented claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cryptographic method using dual keys in a wireless local area network (LAN) system, comprising:

(a) generating a first group key in N wireless terminals forming an ad-hoc group, where N is equal to or greater than two;

(b) generating ~~[[a]]~~ an initial second group key in a main wireless terminal to perform a key distribution center function among the N wireless terminals, and transmitting the initial second group key to (N-1) sub wireless terminals;

(c) encoding data using the initial second group key, and transmitting the encoded data between the N wireless terminals; and

(d) modifying the initial second group key in the main wireless terminal according to a modification time period, predetermined in the main wireless terminal, and transmitting the modified second group key to the (N-1) sub wireless terminals, wherein at least two second group keys are transmitted and used to encode data during use of the first group key.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first group key is generated using a group password of the ad-hoc group.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in (b), the main wireless terminal encodes the second group key using the first group key, and transmits the encoded second group key to the (N-1) wireless terminals.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the main wireless terminal is a creator of the ad-hoc group.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the main wireless terminal is withdrawn from the ad-hoc group, the main wireless terminal transfers the [[a]] key distribution center function to a sub wireless terminal selected from among the (N-1) sub wireless terminals, so that the sub wireless terminal acts as the main wireless terminal.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in (d), the modified second group key is encoded using a non-modified second group key, [[and]] the method further comprising transmitting the encoded second group key to the (N-1) sub wireless terminals.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein (b) comprises:

(b1) if the first group key is created, encoding a second group key request message from one of the (N-1) sub wireless terminals, and transmitting the encoded second group key request message to the main wireless terminal;

(b2) decoding the second group key request message, using the first group key, in the main wireless terminal; and

(b3) creating a second group key according to the decoded second group key request message, in the main wireless terminal.

9. (Previously Presented) A tangible computer readable medium having embodied thereon a computer program for the method according to claim 1.

10. (Previously Presented) A tangible computer readable medium having embodied thereon a computer program for the method according to claim 3.

11. (Previously Presented) A tangible computer readable medium having embodied thereon a computer program for the method according to claim 8.

12. (Currently Amended) A wireless local area network (LAN) system, comprising:
N, where N is equal to or greater than two, wireless terminals which form an ad-hoc group, and create first and second group keys, wherein the N wireless terminals include:

a main wireless terminal for performing a key distribution center function in the ad-hoc group, for creating [[a]] an initial second group key and encoding data using the initial second group key, and for transmitting the encoded data between the remaining wireless terminals; and

(N-1) sub wireless terminals for generating a first group key and for receiving the initial second group key from the main wireless terminal and encoding data using the initial second group key, and for transmitting the encoded data between the remaining wireless terminals, [[and]]

wherein the main wireless terminal modifies the second group key according to a modification time period, predetermined in the main wireless terminal, and transmits the modified second group key to each of the (N-1) sub wireless terminals, wherein at least two second group keys are transmitted and used to encode data during use of the first group key.

13. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the first group key is generated using a group password of the ad-hoc group.

14. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the main wireless terminal encodes the second group key using the first group key, and transmits the encoded second group key to the (N-1) wireless terminals.

15. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the main wireless terminal is a creator of the ad-hoc group.

16. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim 12, wherein when the main wireless terminal is withdrawn from the ad-hoc group, the main wireless terminal transfers the [[a]] key distribution center function to a sub wireless terminal selected from among the (N-1) sub wireless terminals, so that the sub wireless terminal acts as the main wireless terminal.

17. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 12, wherein each sub wireless terminal comprises:

a first group key generator for creating a first group key using a group password input from a user;

a first encryption unit for storing the first group key, for encoding a second group key request message, using the first group key, for decoding a second group key response message from the main wireless terminal using the first group key, and for encoding data input from a user using a second group key; and

a first key management unit for generating the second group key request message to output to the first encryption unit, for extracting a second group key from the second group key response message decoded in the first encryption unit, and for outputting the extracted second group key to the first encryption unit.

18. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the main wireless terminal comprises:

a second group key generator for creating a first group key using a group password input from a user;

a second encryption unit for storing the first group key, for decoding the second group key request message transmitted from the sub wireless terminal using the first group key, for encoding the second group key response message for transmitting to the sub wireless terminal using the first group key, and for encoding data input from a user using the second group key; and

a second key management unit for receiving the second group key request message decoded from the second encryption unit, for creating the second group key, and for outputting the second group key response message including the created second group key to the second encryption unit.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the second encryption unit encodes the modified second group key using a non-modified second group key,

and transmits the encoded modified second group key to each of the (N-1) sub wireless terminals.

21. (Currently Amended) A wireless terminal using dual keys for cryptography, the wireless terminal for performing a key distribution center function in an ad-hoc group including other wireless terminals, the wireless terminal comprising:

first means for creating first and second group keys and encoding data using the second group key, for transmitting the encoded data between the other remaining wireless terminals, and for modifying the second group key according to a predetermined modification time period, and transmits the modified second group key to at least one wireless terminal, wherein at least two second group keys are transmitted and used to encode data during use of the first group key.

22. (Previously Presented) The wireless terminal as claimed in claim 25, wherein the encryption unit encodes the modified second group key using a non-modified second group key, and transmits the encoded modified second group key to the at least one wireless terminal via the encryption unit.

23. (Currently Amended) A wireless terminal using dual keys for cryptography, the wireless terminal comprising:

first means for creating a first group key, for receiving a second group key from another wireless terminal for performing a key distribution center function in an ad-hoc group and encoding data using the second group key which is modified according to a predetermined modification time period, and for transmitting the encoded data between wireless terminals

existing in the ad-hoc group, wherein at least two second group keys are transmitted and used to encode data during use of the first group key.

24. (Previously Presented) The wireless terminal as claimed in claim 23, wherein the first means comprises:

a group key generator for creating a first group key;

an encryption unit for encoding a group key request message, by using the first group key, for decoding a group key response message, by using the first group key, and for encoding data input from a user using the second group key which is modified according to the predetermined modification time period; and

a key management unit for generating the group key request message to output to the encryption unit, for extracting the second group key from the decoded group key response message, and for outputting the extracted second group key to the encryption unit.

25. (Previously Presented) The wireless terminal as claimed in claim 21, wherein the first means comprises:

a group key generator for creating the first group key;

an encryption unit for encoding a group key response message corresponding to a group key request message transmitted from the at least one wireless terminal, by using the first group key, for transmitting the encoded group key response message to the at least one wireless terminal, and for encoding data input from a user using the second group key; and

a key management unit for receiving the group key request message, for creating the second group key, for outputting the group key response message including the created second

group key to the encryption unit, and for modifying the second group key according to the predetermined modification time period.